



SAND FIRE
APACHE-SITGREAVES NATIONAL FOREST
ICP Information Office: 928-535-4481 x 212
Black Mesa Ranger District Office
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April 27, 2006 7:00 am
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The Sand Fire is currently 1,268 acres with 85% containment. The fire is located approximately 30 miles southwest of Winslow, AZ and 8 miles northwest of Chevelon Canyon Lake on the Apache Sitgreaves National Forest. The fire started on April 22 and was human caused, it is currently under investigation.

Fire activity was minimal on Wednesday with a minor flare-up on the northwest corner which was quickly attacked and contained. Crews will continue to do mop-up, line patrol and suppression rehab on the fire perimeter Thursday.

Temperature for Thursday is expected to be near 58 degrees, with 24-29% humidity. Light and variable winds from the south-southeast will change to 10-15 mph from the southwest in the afternoon. A slow moving storm could bring enough moisture for showers and isolated thunderstorms by late Thursday afternoon, lasting into Friday. Gusty winds of 20 to 30 mph are expected near any thunderstorm.

The Arizona Complex Incident Management Team assumed control of the fire on Monday evening. Resources include 2 Type 1 crews, 3 Type 2 crews, 6 engines, 2 water tenders, 2 bull dozers, 1 Type 1 helicopter, and 1 Type 3 helicopter. There are 145 fire personnel assigned to the fire.

There are no travel restrictions in the area and Forest Road 34 remains open. Motorists are asked to travel with caution in the area and to be aware of increased fire traffic.

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